A Letter from Rob Verchick

Never before has technology equipped us to be so connected, informed, and capable of fast political action. We’re going to need that. With a demagogic president and a congressional majority intent on rolling back decades of progress, our task is daunting.

But that’s no reason to stop striving for an America that is safer, cleaner, and fairer for everyone.

For the past 15 years, the Center for Progressive Reform has employed sharp-edged legal and policy research to build healthy communities, safe workplaces, and a more resilient planet. Our network of Member Scholars and our staff of policy experts work with advocates across the country to develop workable solutions to new problems and combat backdoor efforts to undercut existing protections. Rules protecting workers, environmental standards, health and safety regulations — all of it is under attack, and CPR’s experts are defending the principles of transparency, accountability, and justice that we all value.

With support from advocates and donors across the country, our work helped form the basis of EPA’s Clean Power Plan and helped shape OSHA’s silica rule. We’ve played a vital role in developing and enforcing policies to protect the Chesapeake Bay. We’re spearheading new efforts to adapt to climate change. And our expertise on the regulatory process — how to make it work and how it can be distorted — is unmatched.

As CPR marks its 15th anniversary, I invite you to join us as a Friend of CPR with a contribution of $100, $500, or $1,000. Together, we will work to protect and improve our communities and our democracy through policy analysis, creative solutions, and robust communications.

Sincerely,

Rob Verchick
President, Center for Progressive Reform
Defending Safeguards

Opponents of sensible safeguards use a broad brush to denigrate vital health and environmental protections, ignoring the lives they save, ecosystems they protect, and more. But CPR is fighting back and setting the record straight. By pairing our Member Scholars’ robust analysis with communications know-how, CPR is changing the way people think about regulatory policy by:

- Testifying before Congress;
- Filing comments with regulatory agencies;
- Supporting advocates with tailored analysis; and
- Meticulously tracking and speaking out on developments in the regulatory process and on Capitol Hill with in-depth reports, blog posts, and commentary.

CPR is a trusted source for analysis that’s as trenchant as it is relatable, with op-eds running regularly in newspapers across the country — from The New York Times and the Los Angeles Times to the Sacramento Bee and Cincinnati Enquirer. Our Member Scholars’ essays appear in Scientific American, Slate, and The American Prospect. And along with our policy analysts, they are interviewed almost daily by media outlets of all sizes — from major newspapers to trade publications, as well as broadcast and web-based outlets.

Preserving the Integrity of the Regulatory Process

The landmark laws protecting our health, safety, and environment do not enforce themselves. They rely on administrative agencies to develop specific regulations, which are written after careful study and analysis and with input from key stakeholders. The process is far from perfect, subject to political pressure and vulnerable to manipulation.

CPR’s policy experts blow the whistle on agencies and the White House when they misuse cost-benefit analysis and other tools to water down or block vital protections. Never has that work been more important than it is today.

Adapting to Climate Change

It’s been more than four decades since scientific consensus began to emerge around climate change, and still some policymakers resist actually doing anything about it — including the President of the United States and the leaders of Congress.

CPR’s experts are leading the effort to adapt our nation’s laws to climate change, crafting and supporting policies that empower vulnerable communities to adapt to and protect themselves from higher temperatures, rising seas, and more frequent and more severe storms.

Protecting the Chesapeake Bay

The nation’s largest estuary has suffered greatly from excessive pollution over the last century, and the families and communities dependent upon it for their livelihoods or for recreation are suffering along with it.

CPR has taken a strong stand in defense of the Chesapeake Bay, carefully tracking cleanup efforts and developing and supporting policies to ensure that the Bay regains its health and keeps it for generations to come.

Defending Workers’ Rights

All workers have the right to a safe and healthful workplace and should receive a fair wage. But the American workplace has changed dramatically since many of our labor laws were last updated, as have the hazards for workers.

CPR’s scholars and staff offer local, state, and federal policymakers and prosecutors the tools they need to make sure all workers get a fair deal for their labor.
Help Us Create Solutions

With our nationwide network of Scholars and advocacy partners, we find inspiration for solutions to legal and policy challenges everywhere. But moving from inspiration to action is hard work, and we need your support. Please help by joining the Friends of CPR.

- $100/yr: Sponsors enjoy exclusive monthly updates from CPR program staff and are recognized for their support on our website.
- $500/yr: Sustaining Champions receive all of the above plus invites to events featuring CPR Member Scholars.
- $1,000/yr: President’s Circle donors receive all of the above plus exclusive briefings and updates, including previews of upcoming reports and snap reactions to the latest developments.

To support CPR’s work, please fill out the form below or make a secure online donation at:


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